



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Court Approves Two Consent Decrees for Chatham Site Cleanup

SACRAMENTO---The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced that the United States District Court in San Diego has approved two Consent Decrees which requires 56 "generators" to complete the hazardous waste cleanup of extensive soil and groundwater contamination at the Chatham Brothers Barrel Yard, and settles the state's claim against the owners and operators of the former recycling facility. (Generators are individuals or corporations who sent hazardous materials to the state.) The Chatham Brothers Barrel Yard is located at 2257 Bernardo Avenue in the City of Escondido.

The court's action enables DTSC to recover approximately \$1.1 million for past response costs. Total cleanup costs at the site are estimated to be \$30 million.

The Consent Decrees are the culmination of extensive negotiations between DTSC, the Barrel Yard owners, former operators and the 56 generators. The first Consent Decree requires the generators to complete the cleanup process started in 1992 as a result of an interim settlement with DTSC.

Under the 1992 interim settlement, the generators conducted a Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study and Risk Assessment and prepared a draft Remedial Action Plan (cleanup plan) for the site, paid \$4 million toward DTSC's past costs, and installed a groundwater pump and treatment system at the old Barrel Yard. The groundwater system has been operating since 1994 and has treated over 12 million gallons of contaminated groundwater.

Under one Consent Decree approved by the Court, the generators must implement a cleanup plan, developed under the interim settlement, by taking the following steps:

- excavate contaminated soils in certain areas of the site and dispose of them off site;
- install a soil cover over the old Barrel Yard and record deed restrictions;
- install a soil vapor extraction system to remove volatile organic contaminants from soils at the Barrel Yard;

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- continue the operation and maintenance of the groundwater pump and treat system installed under the 1992 interim settlement; and,
- conduct remedial evaluation, remedial monitoring and the implementation of preselected contingency responses, if needed.

A second Consent Decree settles DTSC's claims against the owners and former operators of the recycling facility. Under the Decree, the owners are required to relinquish their ownership interest in the site property. Title of the site will be transferred to an entity controlled by the 56 generators who are performing the hazardous waste cleanup.

The Chatham Brother recycling and bulk petroleum facility was in operation from 1940 to 1981. In 1981, the facility was closed by the State. In 1982, federal, State and local agencies initiated an investigation of environmental pollution. After owners failed to comply with a State order to clean up the site, DTSC removed approximately 11,430 tons of soil contaminated with solvents, metals and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs).

List of generators parties that signed the first Consent Decree.

AAA Plating and Inspection, Inc.
Aerojet-General Corporation
Ametek Inc.
Ara Chem, Inc.
Archive Corporation
Astro Aluminum Treating Co.
A to Z Enterprises, Inc.
Beagle Manufacturing
Bernardo Avenue Development, LLC
Blair's Metal Polishing
City of Escondido
Coors Porcelain Co.
Crown Chemical
CSI Technologies, Inc.
Cubic Corporation
Cubic Automatic Revenue Collection Group
Cubic Communications, Inc.
Deposition Technologies, Inc.
Deutsch E.C.D.
Einer Brothers, Inc.
Frawley Corporation
The Gadget Manufacturing Co.

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GEC-Marconi Electronic Systems Corporation
General Dynamics
The Gillette Company

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Hallmark Circuits, Inc.
Heller Ford
Huck Manufacturing Company
Hughes Aircraft Company
Illinois Tool Works
Interstate Electronics Corporation
Kyocera International, Inc.
Maxwell Laboratories, Inc.
McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Company
Maaco Auto Body and Paint
Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing
Monitor Products Company, Inc.
Navistar International Transportation Corp.
North American Philips Corporation
Northern Automotive Corporation
Power Plus Corporation
Quality Chevrolet
Robertshaw Controls Company
Rockwell International
Rogers Corporation
San Diego County Water Authority
Sears Roebuck and Co.
Shur-Lok Corporation
Solar Turbines Incorporated
Textron Inc.
Union Carbide
Unitrode Corporation
Valley Center Municipal Water District
Whittaker Corporation
Zero Corporation

DTSC is one of six boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.

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